

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:EHURWITZ:CHG

APPROVED BY P - MR HABIB

EA - AMB. HUMMEL

S/S-O:AWOTTO

NSC-MR SCOWCRAFT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 220659

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, KS, US

SUBJECT:PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT PARK

REF: SEOUL 6910

1. BELOW IS TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT FORD WHICH
YOU SHOULD CONVEY TO PRESIDENT PARK AFTER SIGNATURE
JSA AGREEMENT.

QUOTE:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

I WANT TO EXPRESS MY DEEP APPRECIATION TO YOU AND YOUR
GOVERNMENT FOR YOUR COUNSEL,SUPPORT AND COOPERATION IN
CARRYING OUT OUR JOINT RESPONSE TO THE NORTH KOREAN
PROVOCATION OF AUGUST 18.

I BELIEVE THE RESOLUTE CHARACTER OF OUR ACTIONS HAS
MADE IT CLEAR TO THE NORTH KOREAN REGIME THAT WE WILL

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NOT TOLERATE AGGRESSIVE ACTS ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA.

THE MEASURED AND CALCULATED NATURE OF OUR RESPONSE HAS ALSO DEMONSTRATED THAT, IN CONTRAST TO THE NORTH, WE DO NOT SEEK A RECKLESS ESCALATION OF TENSIONS IN KOREA.

I AM ALSO HOPEFUL THAT THE NORTH KOREAN CONCESSIONS IN THE NEW JOINT SECURITY AREA ARRANGEMENTS, WHICH WERE MADE POSSIBLE BY OUR FIRM ACTION, WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE INCREASED SAFETY OF PERSONNEL AT PANMUNJOM.

THE EVENTS OF RECENT WEEKS HAVE DEMONSTRATED ONCE AGAIN THE CLOSE TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND OUR ABILITY TO PLAN AND WORK TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE OUR COMMON GOALS.

SINCERELY,

GERALD R. FORD

UNQUOTE

2. WE LEAVE IT TO YOUR DISCRETION WHETHER TO DELIVER MESSAGE PERSONALLY TO PRESIDENT PARK. IN ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH HIM YOU SHOULD AVOID RAISING QUESTION OF FUTURE RETALIATORY MOVES WHICH YOU PROPOSED IN PARA 4 (D) REFTTEL.

3. WE DO NOT INTEND TO MAKE MESSAGE PUBLIC BUT HAVE NO OBJECTION IF ROKG WISHES TO DO SO.

ROBINSON

SECRET

NNN

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